

adopted by the Council on July 11, 2000; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-9967. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, the copies of D.C. Act 13-378 entitled "Closing of a Public Alley in Square 288, S.O. 98-163, Act of 2000" adopted by the Council on July 11, 2000; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-9968. A communication from the Director of the Defense Procurement, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Progress Payments for Foreign Military Sales Contracts" (DFARS Case 2000-D009) received on July 12, 2000; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-9969. A communication from the Chief of Programs and Legislation Division, Office of the Legislative Liaison, Department of the Air Force, transmitting, a notice relative to a cost comparison to reduce the cost of the Supply and Transportation function over a sixty month period at Anderson Air Force Base, Guam; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-9970. A communication from the Under Secretary of the Navy, transmitting, a notification relative to functions performed by military and civilian personnel; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-9971. A communication from the General Counsel of the National Tropical Botanical Garden, transmitting, pursuant to law, the National Tropical Botanical Garden Annual Audit Report for calendar year 1999; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

EC-9972. A communication from the Associate Administrator of the Livestock and Seed Program, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Pork Promotion, Research, and Consumer Information Program: Procedures for the Conduct of Referendum" (Docket Number: LS-99-14) received on July 14, 2000; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-9973. A communication from the Associate Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Research and Promotion Branch, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Blueberry Promotion, Research, and Information Order" (FV-99-701-FR) received on July 17, 2000; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-9974. A communication from the Chief of the Regulations Unit of the Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revenue Ruling 2000-33 Automatic Enrollment in Section 457(b) plans" (Rev. Rul. 2000-33) received on July 17, 2000; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

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REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. MACK, from the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 2101: A bill to promote international monetary stability and to share seigniorage with officially dollarized countries (Rept. No. 106-354).

By Mr. GRAMM, from the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, with an amendment:

S. 2266: A bill to provide for the minting of commemorative coins to support the 2002 Salt Lake Olympic Winter Games and the programs of the United States Olympic Committee (Rept. No. 106-355).

By Mr. GRAMM, from the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, without amendment:

S. 2453: A bill to authorize the President to award a gold medal on behalf of Congress to Pope John Paul II in recognition of his outstanding and enduring contributions to humanity, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 106-356).

S. 2459: A bill to provide for the award of a gold medal on behalf of the Congress to former President Ronald Reagan and his wife Nancy Reagan in recognition of their service to the Nation (Rept. No. 106-357).

By Mr. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 1474: A bill providing conveyance of the Palmetto Bend project to the State of Texas (Rept. No. 106-358).

By Mr. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment:

S. 2425: A bill to authorize the Bureau of Reclamation to participate in the planning, design, and construction of the Bend Feed Canal Pipeline Project, Oregon, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 106-359).

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INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. BIDEN:

S. 2908. A bill to authorize funding for successful reentry of criminal offenders into local communities; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. FITZGERALD:

S. 2909. A bill to permit landowners to assert otherwise-available state law defenses against property claims by Indian tribes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

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SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. LOTT:

S. Res. 341. A resolution authorizing the printing of certain materials in honor of Paul Coverdell.

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STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. BIDEN:

S. 2908. A bill to authorize funding for successful reentry of criminal offenders into local communities; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

THE OFFENDER REENTRY AND COMMUNITY SAFETY ACT OF 2000

Mr. BIDEN. Mr. President, today I am proud to introduce the Offender Reentry and Community Safety Act of 2000. I am introducing this legislation because all too often we have short-term solutions for long-term problems. All too often we think about today, but not tomorrow. It's time that we start looking forward. It's time that we face the dire situation of prisoners re-entering our communities with insufficient monitoring, little or no job skills, inadequate drug treatment, insufficient housing and deficient basic life skills.

According to the Department of Justice, 1.25 million offenders are now liv-

ing in prisons and another 600,000 offenders are incarcerated in local jails. A record number of those inmates—approximately 585,400 will return to communities this year. Historically, two-thirds of returning prisoners have been rearrested for new crimes within three years.

The safety threat posed by this volume of prisoner returns has been exacerbated by the fact that states and communities can't possibly properly supervise all their returning offenders, parole systems have been abolished in thirteen states and policy shifts toward more determinate sentencing have reduced the courts' authority to impose supervisory conditions on offenders returning to their communities.

State systems have also reduced the numbers of transitional support programs aimed at facilitating the return to productive community life styles. Recent studies indicate that many returning prisoners receive no help in finding employment upon release and most offenders have low literacy and other basic educational skills that can impede successful reentry.

At least 55 percent of offenders are fathers of minor children, and therefore face a number of issues related to child support and other family responsibilities during incarceration and after release. Substance abuse and mental health problems also add to concerns over community safety. Approximately 70 percent of state prisoners and 57 percent of federal prisoners have a history of drug use or abuse. Research by Justice indicates that between 60 and 75 percent of inmates with heroin or cocaine problems return to drugs within three months when untreated. An estimated 187,000 state and federal prison inmates have self-reported mental health problems. Mentally ill inmates are more likely than other offenders to have committed a violent offense and be violent recidivists. Few states connect mental health treatment in prisons with treatment in the return community. Finally, offenders with contagious diseases such as HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis are released with no viable plan to continue their medical treatment so they present a significant danger to public health. And while the federal prison population and reentry system differs from the state prison population and reentry systems, there are nonetheless significant reentry challenges at the federal level.

We need to start thinking about what to do with these people. We need to start thinking in terms of helping these people make a transition to the community so that they don't go back to a life of crime and can be productive members of our society. We need to start thinking about the long-term impact of what we do after we send people to jail.

My legislation creates demonstration reentry programs for federal, state and local prisoners. The programs are designed to assist high-risk, high-need offenders who have served their prison